

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY L/NEA:BKHUFFMAN:DSC

APPROVED BY NEA:ARDA

L/M:KEMALMBORG

SSM: MCMANAWAY

NEA/IAI:WBSMITH

NEA/EGY:HFMATTHEWS

S/S -MR. ORTIZ

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, OTRA

SUBJECT: SINAI FIELD FORCES; PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES,
PARA 6 OF U.S. PROPOSAL

REF: CAIRO 647

1. WE BELIEVE FIRST SENTENCE PARA 6 OF U.S. PROPOSAL PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF BOTH USG AND CONTRACTOR IN SFM WHENEVER THEY ARE SUBJECT TO ISRAELI OR EGYPTIAN JURISDICTION. WE DO NOT WISH TO GENERATE ANY FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOE ON THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME.

2. EMBASSIES SHOULD SEND NOTES TO GOI AND GOE UPON ARRIVAL OF ALL SFM PERSONNEL (BOTH U.S. GOVERNMENT AND CONTRACT PERSONNEL) NOTING THEIR ENTITLEMENT TO CERTAIN

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PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES UNDER PARA 6 OF THE AGREEMENT

ON THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM (THE US PROPOSAL) WHICH ENTERED INTO FORCE OCTOBER 13, 1975, AND REQUESTING APPROPRIATE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND POV LICENSE PLATES FOR SUCH PERSONNEL REFLECTING THE ABOVE STATUS. THOUGH SFM PERSONNEL WOULD NOT BE CARRIED ON DIPLOMATIC LIST, NOTE SHOULD ALSO INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF THOSE SFM PERSONNEL WHO WILL HAVE DIPLOMATIC TITLES TO FACILITATE THEIR LIAISON ACTIVITIES.

3. DEPENDENTS OF USG EMPLOYEES OF SFM WHO INTEND TO RESIDE IN ISRAEL AND EGYPT POSE SEPARATE PROBLEM SINCE THEY ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN PARA 6. WE DO NOT WISH AT THIS TIME TO STIMULATE NEW NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOE OR GOI CONCERNING DEPENDENTS' STATUS. BECAUSE OF SMALL NUMBER OF PERSONS CONCERNED (5 IN CAIRO AND 4 FAMILIES IN ISRAEL), WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO TRY TO FINESSE THE ISSUE BY INCLUDING NAMES OF ACCOMPANYING DEPENDENTS ON ABOVE DESCRIBED NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTRIES CONTAINING NOTIFICATION OF ARRIVAL OF SFM PERSONNEL AND REQUESTING APPROPRIATE IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND POV LICENSE PLATES. IF GOE OR GOI THEN RAISES QUESTIONS ABOUT DEPENDENTS' STATUS, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS ISSUE. IF NOT, WE WOULD TREAT ISSUANCE OF I.D. CARDS AND POV LICENSE PLATES TO DEPENDENTS AS UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WOULD ENJOY SAME STATUS AS SFM PERSONNEL.

4. DESPITE BROAD PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES PROVIDED BY PARA 6 WE HOPE LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR ALL U.S. PERSONNEL AND USG EMPLOYEES' DEPENDENTS WILL REDUCE PROSPECTS FOR DISAGREEMENTS OVER SCOPE OF IMMUNITIES. CONTRACT ENABLES USG TO REQUIRE CONTRACTOR TO PROVIDE COMPLETE LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR CONTRACT PERSONNEL IN EGYPTIAN OR ISRAELI CONTROLLED TERRITORY ON DUTY AND OFF DUTY; USG IS SELF-INSURER FOR ALL OFFICIAL ACTS BY USG EMPLOYEES OF SFM; AND USG EMPLOYEES WILL BE URGED TO PROCURE ADEQUATE LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR THEIR OFF-DUTY ACTIVITIES AND FOR THEIR ACCOMPANYING DEPENDENTS. INGERSOLL

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